



# SEEL CORVAIR MINNESOTA NEWSLETTER

## **SEPTEMBER 2012**

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

August feels like the month without the Corvair. Due to work meetings, I had to go to Orlando and miss both our Summer Picnic and the August Member meeting in Delano. After I send this to our esteemed editor, I will be on my way to Rapid City, SD to drop off my son, Brad, at the School of Mines and Engineering. Needless to say I'm looking forward to September when everything settles down.

I hope the Summer Picnic was a success. I'm looking forward to hearing from Ray and Kitty and other members as to how the event was. From what I saw from the airport, the weather was great. Hopefully everyone had a great time and I'm sure there are photos elsewhere in the SEEL.

My daughter is looking for a new car. Now that she's out of college and gainfully employed, she feels it's time to retire the Olds Alero (or hand it down to Brad) and get something new. I've tried hard talking her into a Corvair but she's got her eyes set on a Mazda 3 or a similar four door hatchback. Whatever she decides on, I can't wait to play dad and help her find a new car.

My auction snafu is still for sale in Mankato. Not that I'm getting desperate but I really need that Mercedes gone. Cara and I are even thinking of finding something to trade even up on. That still leaves us with four cars but at least the fourth car would be something we would drive. We're both partial to station wagons, having had several in the past. I once had a Cutlass Ciera and a Ford Taurus wagon. Cara also had a Taurus wagon. By some definitions, our HHR is considered a wagon as well. In any event, we'll see what happens.

As you can probably guess by the rambling, it's been a hectic month. As I said, I'm looking forward to getting back into a routine in September. Speaking of September, our member meeting will be at the Tin Shed in Savage like last September. Unlike last year, though, we have the larger meeting room reserved so there will be plenty of space for everyone. See you all there.

Stay tuned, Lee Knauf CMI President



# **Treasurer's Report August, 2012**

By Ray Alexander, CMI Treasurer

July 10, 2012 Balance	<u>\$2849.47</u>	
Income:		
Dues receipts	\$40.00	
GMCCA check	\$1036.50	
Total Income:	\$1076.50	
Expenses:		
Visions Embroidery (club clothing)	\$123.00	
"Leeky Seel" Printing & postage (2 mos.)	\$210.00	
Fran and Mary Schmit (Picnic & BOD dinner)	\$75.00	
Total Expenses:	-\$408.00	
August 14, 2012 Balance \$3517.9		

Some fuel savings tips from Consumer Reports (thanks Fran)

- 1.) **Drive at a moderate speed.** This is the biggest factor. Driving at 55mph instead of 65 or 75 will save you money.
- 2.) Drive smoothly. Avoid hard acceleration and braking whenever possible.
- 3.) **Reduce unnecessary drag.** At highway speeds more than 50 percent of engine power goes to overcome aerodynamic drag. So don't carry things on top of your car when you don't have to.
- 4.) **Don't use premium fuel if you don't have to**. If your car specifies regular fuel, don't buy premium under the mistaken belief that your engine will run better.
- 5.) Minimize driving with a cold engine. Engines run most efficiently when they are warm.
- 6.) **Keep tires properly inflated.** Check the pressure of you vehicle's tires at least once a month with a tire gauge.
- 7.) **Buy tires with lower rolling resistance.** A tire's rolling resistance can add or detract another 1 or 2 mpg.
- 8.) **Avoid idling for long periods.** As a rule, turn off your engine if you expect to sit more than about 30 seconds!

# Corvair Minnesota Upcoming Events





- Sept 01 Fire and ICE, Marshalltown, IA
  - 08 Classics by the Lake, Buffalo, MN 10am 2pm (http://www.buffalo-mn.org/events.htm)
  - 11 Membership meeting Tin Shed in Savage, 6:30 p.m.
  - 15-16 Fall cruise to Duluth This trip has been cancelled
  - 15 Family Fun Fest, Buffalo, MN 11am-4pm
  - 27 Board of Directors

## Oct 02 pending weather, we may get together for the 53rd anniversary

- 09 Membership meeting MUM
  - 14 Roadsters Swap Meet, State Fairgrounds (http://roadsterstwincities.com/)
  - 25 Board of Directors
- Nov 06 Membership meeting MUM (voter's meeting) TBD Board of Directors

Because of construction in downtown Buffalo, the **Classics by the Lake Car Show** will be held in **Sturges Park**, right on Hwy 25, about a block south of where we plan to meet on **Saturday, September 8th**. The park is a beautiful area with plenty of shade, and the cars will not be quite so spread out so there's actually less walking. There will be live music in the bandshell and some of the past winners will be honored there as well. There will be food vendors in the park, and I'm told they will be serving breakfast there, so we can either eat in the park or walk over to J's Restaurant. The downtown shops will be open so shopping will still be in order. If you have any questions call me at 612-940-9179 and remember to give me your registration information by **September 3rd**. Thanks -- Billy (Cook)



## Vairs, Vairs, Everywhere

Lately there have been a number of unusual Corvairs "popping" up on my radar screen.

This one is a 1961 Rampside with two Corvair engines. It was built in the late 70's for drag racing and has minimal rust. It is for sale in Palo Alto California with an asking price of \$4000 (OBO). If you're interested the number is (209)233-8909.



How about a 4-door convertible spotted on eBAY? Item number 221108504382







# Lots of Food!

Pork Chops on a Stick and Fixin's, Kids' Meals, Beverages, Cotton Candy, Mini Donuts, Popcorn, Pies, Cakes & Cookies, Ice Cream & Candy Treats





# Live Music by the Elvis Experience & by the Wagon Wheelers KRWC Road Show ● Classic Car Show ● Bingo

# **Raffles & Prizes**

50" LCD Flat-Screen TV, Men's Golf Club Set, Women's Bicycle, Custom-Made Knife, Turkey Fryer, DVD Player, 5" Portable TV, and Much More!

# **Kid's Activities and Games**

Fish Pond, Face Painting, Cake Walk, Duck Pond, Hair Painting, Grab Bags & Moon Walk

# St. John's Lutheran Church

Outdoors at the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> St NE & 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave NE in Buffalo

# "Christian TClassics" Car Show

Preregistration is suggested (No entry fee) Dash plaques given to the first 25 entries

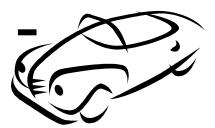
"People's Choice" winner gets a \$200 auto detailing package!

Name / City \_\_\_\_

Phone / e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicle description (year/make/model)

Mail this form to St John's Lutheran Church, PO Box 238, Buffalo, MN 55313 (For more information call Bill Cook @ 612-940-9179)



## It Takes a Lot of Balls to Drive a Corvair

One of the things we do at PETCO is raise money and supplies for animal shelters and pet adoption groups. For the last three years in August, we have a Tennis Ball sales contest between the stores. Most stores try to fill aquariums or dog kennels with tennis balls, but I thought of doing something bigger. How many tennis balls would fit in the trunk of a Corvair? To find out, I made entries and posters, even attaching a sign to the top of my '69 and parking it in front of the shopping center. Needless to say we had great success and heard a lot of stories about Corvairs (apparently everyone in Apple Valley used to own one). On Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> we loaded \_\_\_\_\_\_ tennis balls into my car. Anyone care to guess how many balls were in the trunk? I'll have a prize to award at the September meeting to the person who guesses the closest.



Lee Knauf CMI President



# This Old Wagon



I had a 'conniption fit' over some misfiring so I took out the Rampside's engine. Tore it down and found nothing wrong with it except a loose Harmonic Balancer. In hindsight it appears the H.B. secures the drive gear for the distributor - - and being loose let the distributor fire at 'bad' times - - not nice! To check it out after the teardown I sat the engine in our old tin wagon to test run it....I can also roll it around to aim the exhaust into the garage for modest sound abatement.

It's a little heavy for those old wheels but OK if I stay on the cement driveway. If you see anything in the picture that triggers a question - speak up. *Fran* 







Would a 1963 Huffy Corvair bicycle be more interesting?

New paint, decals and tires with a working front light. \$150 and it's yours. (612) 508-0450 in Lakeville, MN

Here's one that many of us knows – it's Flat Fred (a 1962 FC) owned by Wally Couture and it's for sale, as well. Contact Wally at (763)-427-7331.

One more local vehicle: a 1958 VW Kombi bus with a Corvair motor and transmission. This one doesn't run or drive, but it's interesting. Available from Rich in Watertown; he's asking \$1100. (952) 544-1679





Has anyone else seen any interesting Corvair powered vehicles lately? John Herkenratt





CMI Classifieds

## FOR SALE

- '64 steering box (core value \$145.00) rebuilt \$185.00
- '62 3 piece front trim NOS \$250.00
- '65 front grill very good \$100.00
- '63 700 rocker trim (narrow) NOS
- '62 500/700 (narrow) rocker trim NOS
- '61 '63 car steering box used (core value \$125.00) \$125.00
- '65 '66 steering box used (core value \$125.00) \$125.00
- '65 '69 headlight bezels NOS (1 right, 2 left)
- '64 rear exhaust air grill NOS

Jerry Berge 480-250-8816

#### \*\*\*\*\*

65	Rocker panel trim	\$150.00
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64	NOS Rear Grill	\$150.00
all	2 Speed Wiper Motor w/wire harness	\$ 20.00
Used distributor \$ 25		\$ 25.00
65	Good Used Hub Caps (4)	\$ 40.00
all	License Plates, 62-64 w/tabs, 65	\$10.00/pr
all	Rear Engine Comp. Rubber seal	\$ 10.00
all	Oil Filter Adapter w Bolt	\$ 20.00
Late front Spoiler, repairable \$ 10.00		
	Late dash Shifter Lever	\$ 5.00
Assorted Tune up Parts price on each item		
Rich Buratto 612-743-6706		

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**New:** Engine electrical harness, ball joints, Pertronix ignition; headers (110 and 140); custom exhaust; Wallen rebuilt starters generators and alternators; mufflers; rebuilt flywheels; new belly pan for late; crank and rod bearings. **Used parts:** complete engines, transmissions, differentials: call for parts – I have a large inventory.

#### I also offer full time Corvair repair

Gary Nelson 612-866-3247 or cell: 612-644-1258

#### \*\*\*\*\*\*

Complete 1967 Corvair Monza 4 door for sale. Rare: 1 of 3157 produced in 1967. Auto transmission. Needs master cylinder. Has some rust but is a good project car for restoration or rat rod. Give a call if interested in complete car. Car has MN title. Open to offers or trade for???? Call Dave at 763-772-5052 (Cambridge)



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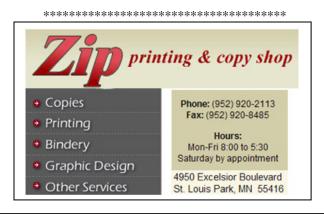
To all the CMI'ers, It has come time to sell my **1964** Corvair Monza Convertible (aka Trophy Magnet) I have owned this car for 23 years. I wanted to let CMI know that the car was up for sale before I put it on Craigslist, etc. Most of you know the car from GMCCA, Stone Arch Show, Edina Parade, etc. This car got a Bronze at the Cedar Rapids 2010 CORSA National Convention. I recently sold my yellow 65 and red 63 Spyder. The black 64 is the last to go. No I'm not abandoning CMI, just doing some other things, and need to be able to get all my vehicles in the garage. Thanks Rich Buratto 612-743-6706



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## **Corvair Repair In Minnesota**

Your Place or Mine Part Time Casual, Off Season Is Best Mobile Service, Trailering Service, Reasonable Rates CORSA, Corvair Minnesota and SCCA Member Jim Brandberg 2214 - 293 ½ Av. NW, Isanti, MN 55040 763-444-9334 jimbrandberg@aol.com

(9)

## WEBSITE:

### http://www.corvairminnesota.com/

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## THE LEEKY SEEL

3370 Library Lane	St. Louis Park, MN	
55426-4224	Ph: 763.475.0350	
TEMP – RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED		



CMI is a non-profit corporation, chartered with The CORVAIR Society of America. Send CORVAIR Minnesota's \$20.00 annual dues, payable by Jan 01, to the CMI Treasurer. Membership in CORVAIR Minnesota entitles you to the monthly newsletter, "The Leeky Seel", with free ads for members, a club sticker, discounts on club activities, window information on parts availability, and good advice on the preservation and enjoyment of the CORVAIR automobile.... Yeah!